

# New All-Time Building Record for City Set Tuesday

# DOCTORS SPIKE MENINGITIS SCARE; ONLY ONE CASE REPORTED IN CITY

PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING

## TORRANCE HERALD

—and 8 Companion Trade Area Newspapers Reach 100,000 Readers

Entered as second class matter Jan. 30, 1914, at postoffice Torrance, California, under Act of March 3, 1879.

5¢  
Per Copy

Sunday and Thursday  
Home Delivered by Carrier  
30 Cents Per Month

38th YEAR—No. 73

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1952

PHONE TORRANCE 444

12

20 PAGES



(Herald Photo)

J. HUGH SHERFEY JR.  
... To Head Red Cross Fund Drive

## Sherfey to Head Red Cross Drive

Appointment of former Mayor J. Hugh Sherfey Jr. to head the 1953 Red Cross fund campaign was announced yesterday by W. A. Felker, chairman of the Torrance Branch of the American Red Cross.

Sherfey, who is the owner of Stone and Myers Mortuary, will have the task of organizing a campaign to secure the city's quota in the annual drive early next year.

The announcement of Sherfey's appointment followed the release of a condensed report to the Board of Directors of the Torrance Red Cross by Chairman Felker.

The chairman revealed that blood collected through the Los Angeles Regional Blood Center from July 1, 1951 to June 30, 1952, amounted to 101,622 pints for civilian use and 116,894 pints for the armed forces.

Between May 1 of this year and the present time, a total of 1004 pints of blood have been collected in Torrance, Felker reported.

"Each blood bank will have to collect more blood now since fewer mobile units will be sent to Torrance," Felker said. He explained that operating expenses of the service were trimmed 20 per cent in this year's budget.

Felker also pointed out some facts which will be brought up and emphasized during the coming fund drive.

**Federal Funds**

"When the President and Congress allocate sums of money to cities in a natural disaster (floods and the like), these federal sums can be spent only on the restoring of public utilities and local government properties," the chairman explained.

He pointed out that it was the Red Cross which carried the burden of rehabilitation of individuals and families.

"In times of disaster, the Red Cross always provides food, shelter, and clothing," he said.

In carrying out this work, the Red Cross annually spends about \$35,000,000.

The need for this money is best known by someone who has gone through such a disaster as the Kansas City flood, Felker said.

Organization of the committee

## Dwelling Permit Issued Tuesday Tops Old Record

Every building permit issued by the City of Torrance between now and the end of December will set a new record, building department officials revealed yesterday.

A permit issued Tuesday to Peter Rimac for an \$8500 residence at 2675 Carson St. put the 1952 building permit totals over the all-time high of \$16,009,782 which was set in 1950.

The record-breaking building will be constructed by the Alter Construction Co., a division of the Alter Realty Co.

A large per cent of the 1952 growth has been residential, although industry is beginning to show gains here which promise to outstrip anything seen in previous years.

Indications are that the 1952 record—wherever it goes by Dec. 31—will not stand long as approval of tract maps for nearly \$16,000,000 in new homes recently and the contemplated industrial development which is headed by the \$36,000,000 plastic plant of the Carbon and Carbides Corp. in the city will make the current record appear very small.

Present planning is that the 1309 home development of the Ellinwood Corp. in southwest Torrance will get under way early in 1953 and that other large developments, both industrial and residential, will be started after the first of the year.

In all events, the honor of topping the all-time record now goes to Peter Rimac and his home to be built at 2675 Carson St.

## Red Feather Drive Volunteers Needed

The urgent need for more volunteers to staff this year's Community Chest campaign in Torrance was cited yesterday at a meeting of the city's Red Feather leadership.

Meeting at the Community Chest Service Center, 1103 Sartori, chairman of all divisions reported their progress to City Chairman Don Armstrong.

The general theme of the reports indicated that more workers are needed before the Nov. 10 kickoff date set for the business and residential groups.

Armstrong has called another leadership meeting for Tuesday, Oct. 29, at the Chest Center at 9 a. m.

Tuesday, the city's residential

## Council Orders Survey for One Sewer District In Riviera Area

Many Hollywood Riviera residents who have been seeking the installation of sewers in the area will have to wait a while following action of the City Council Tuesday evening.

The question of installing sanitary sewers in the area—divided into three districts for ease of handling—was answered by the council when it agreed to go ahead with the engineering survey in District No. 3 (upper Riviera) but drop the plans for the other two districts.

Hesitancy of the council to

go ahead with the two districts in lower Riviera was attributed to the low percentage of signatures on a petition circulated in the area recently. Much of the property in the lower section is owned by persons who do not live in the area at all and presented a problem of securing signatures of any percentage of owners.

About 65 per cent of the owners in the upper section signed the petitions.

How the sewer laid up in the upper Riviera section will be tied in to existing mains some distance from the area, was not answered in the council action.

The Champion firm and Hicks represented both the buyer and seller in the transaction, according to Peetz.

The area is bounded by Pacific Coast Hwy., WALTERIA, Palos Verdes Estates, and the Riviera area.



(Herald Photo)

**AUTO HITS TRAIN . . .** John Collins, 18, escaped serious injury when his car smashed into a 150-ton Diesel locomotive on Lenita Blvd. west of Pennsylvania Ave. Tuesday night. Torrance traffic officer Harvey Turrentine, who was following Collins' car, saw the accident, stopped and summoned an ambulance. The youth was cut about the face and hands.

## Youth Lucky as Car Plows Into 150-Ton Train

Eighteen-year-old John Leonard Collins miraculously escaped serious injury when his late model sedan crumpled into a 150-ton locomotive at Lenita Blvd. and the Santa Fe tracks Tuesday evening.

Collins, of 24836 Narbonne Ave., was rushed to Harbor General Hospital by South Bay ambulance. He suffered only scalp and facial lacerations, and a bunched up knee.

Torrance traffic officer Harvey Turrentine, who was following only a quarter of a mile behind Collins when he smashed into the train, said the young driver was traveling about 40 miles per hour.

Engineer Tuella G. McCowan, 60, of Huntington Park, reported that the auto just tipped the rear end of the big engine. The train was not damaged.

Police listed Collins' car, which he had purchased only several weeks ago, as a total loss.

## Ellinwood Corp. Buys Property For Development

Sale of the Ellinwood Estate to the Ellinwood Corp., a large firm of Beverly Hills builders, was announced yesterday by E. J. Champion and Fred Peetz of the Champion Realty, and C. U. Hicks, real estate broker.

The sale of the land to the Ellinwood Corp. clears the way for construction of the 1309 homes in the area which were approved by Torrance Planning Commission last week.

The Champion firm and Hicks represented both the buyer and seller in the transaction, according to Peetz.

The area is bounded by Pacific Coast Hwy., WALTERIA, Palos Verdes Estates, and the Riviera area.

## Meningitis Scare Sweeps High School

Rumors that a spinal meningitis epidemic had hit Torrance were spiked yesterday by Dr. Jules Comroe, district health officer.

"Fears that Torrance is suffering an epidemic are entirely unjustified," the health officer expounded.

The rumors that an epidemic had been declared spread faster than a fire through under-dry brush following a post-football game rally Friday night. A 16-year-old Torrance High School Junior, Barbara Hazzard, 911 Acacia Ave., was stricken with meningitis Saturday. The night before she had played hostess to nearly 100 Torrance High School students at a party at her home.

**40 Examined**

One local doctor stated that he had examined 40 students on Monday. He found no evidence of the disease and credited the onrush of requests to be examined to "mob hysteria."

"The incubation period of the disease is three days," states Dr. Comroe. "If there were an epidemic in process we would have recorded more cases of the disease by this time," he said Monday afternoon.

"At present we have but that one case of meningitis. There is certainly no cause for alarm. Symptoms of the disease are recognized easily and need not be confused with symptoms of other diseases. The most obvious symptoms are unconsciousness with the patient becoming very rigid. The onset of the disease is rather sudden, but usually follows a common cold. Other symptoms include a pin-point rash over the entire body of the patient, accompanied with a sore throat, fever, headache and stiff neck," the health officer pointed out.

"The community need not be concerned, only the immediate family need be watchful," he stated.

**Grid Practice Hit**

The "epidemic scare" indirectly prompted the cancellation of football practice on Monday of this week. Although Dr. Comroe stated that it was unnecessary to cancel the grid practice, a large number of both the varsity and Bee teams had been given dosages of a sulfa drug by private physicians and were excused from practice during the period they were taking the preventive medicine.

Some doctors recommended that those students taking the sulfa drug refrain from athletics or even driving a car due to the

reaction of the drug which slows down the reflexes. "A patient under sulfa is more likely to become injured if engaging in an activity as strenuous as football," Dr. Comroe explained.

Adding to the general confusion was some disagreement among local doctors. Some doctors okayed football practice if the player was taking the sulfa drug, while others recommended against practicing if the player were taking the medicine.

**Child Hurt In Brush With Bus**

Running out into the street to the side of a Torrance Unified School District bus resulted in injuries to Jean Elizabeth Glazebrook, 4, of 2228 Gramercy Ave., yesterday noon.

Jean was playing near the Torrance Elementary School when she apparently darted out to the side of the bus, traveling along Plaza Del Amo, according to Traffic Officer Don Nash.

She was taken to Harbor General Hospital for X-rays and treatment. Bus driver was J. E. Reed, of 1740 Date Ave.

**Torrance Ballot Meeting Tuesday**

A meeting of the Torrance Ballot Association will be held in the Torrance Theater on Sartori Ave. Tuesday evening at 7:30. It was announced yesterday by Chairman Jack Dabbs.

The meeting is being called to organize the battalions for Nov. 4 "get-out-the-vote" work, Dabbs said.

"We still need volunteers in nearly every phase of our work," the chairman said in urging anyone interested in helping with the nonpartisan group to be at the theater Tuesday.



(Herald Photo)

**MAKE NEW ARTERY . . .** Large earth-moving equipment rips into the ground as Crenshaw Blvd. moves southward through the Torrance airfield into the Palos Verdes Hills. Latest section under construction is between Lenita Blvd. and Pacific Coast Hwy., west of Pennsylvania Ave. Road officials hope that ribbon-cutting ceremonies will come off in January as planned for the new 1 1/2-mile section. When complete, Crenshaw Blvd. will extend from Portuguese Bend to Wilshire Blvd. through the heart of Torrance.